

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the pending claims as indicated below:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of ordering products from an electronic database using a computer system, said method comprising:

categorizing the products represented in said electronic database into pre-defined categories;

maintaining a list of commonly purchased products in each said category;

displaying at least a partial listing of said categories;

enabling a user to select at least one displayed category; and

displaying an electronic order form comprising at least a portion of the commonly purchased products corresponding to said selected category.

2. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, wherein each said list of commonly purchased products is based on a history of prior orders, said history being dynamically updated over time.

3. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, wherein said pre-defined categories are customized for a specific user.

4. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, wherein said list of commonly purchased products is customized to display products most commonly ordered by a specific user.

5. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, including:

providing multiple of said lists of commonly purchased products, wherein each said product list comprises at least a product name and an input field for enabling a user to indicate a desired quantity of said product to be purchased; and

for each said product list, automatically capturing all products and quantities desired by the user to an aggregate product list prior to displaying another said product list.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 5, further including, for each said product list:
enabling a user to change to zero or to delete said quantity of said product to be purchased; and
automatically capturing all changes to said quantity of said product to an aggregate product list and removing said product from said aggregate product list prior to displaying another said product list.
7. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 5, wherein said aggregate product list is an editable shopping cart form.
8. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 5, wherein said aggregate product list is a final purchase order.
9. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, wherein said computer system is a client-server based system, said electronic database is stored on the server, and said product list is displayable on said client.
10. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said computer system is personal computer system, and said electronic database is stored on the computer system.
11. (Withdrawn) A method for ordering products from an electronic database, said method comprising:
storing electronic purchase orders created by a user on a computer system;
enabling said user to search for and select previous purchase orders;
enabling a user to select a previously ordered product from said previous purchase order for automatic inclusion in a current purchase order.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, further comprising enabling said user to modify information regarding said selected previously ordered product, including at least the quantity of product.
13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, further comprising enabling said user to search for said previous purchase orders using a search criteria or to view all previous purchase orders.
14. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 13, wherein the search criteria includes at least one of purchase order number, product number and product description.
15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, wherein said computer system is a client-server based system, said electronic database is stored on the server, and said product list is displayable on said client.
16. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said computer system is a personal computer system, and said electronic database is stored on the computer system.
17. (Withdrawn) A method for ordering product electronically, said method comprising:
 - provisioning multiple product lists available for display, each said product list having at least a product name and an input field for enabling a user to indicate a desired quantity of said product to be purchased; and
 - for each said product list, automatically capturing all products and quantities desired for purchase by the user to an aggregate product list prior to displaying another said product list.
18. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17, wherein said aggregate product list is a final purchase order which said user accepts or denies.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, further comprising enabling said user to review and modify said aggregate product list and automatically transmitting all products and quantities from said aggregated product list to a final purchase order which said user accepts or denies.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17, wherein said computer system is a client-server based system, said electronic database is stored on the server, and said product list is displayable on said client.

21. (Original) The method according to Claim 17, wherein said computer system is personal computer system, and said electronic database is stored on the computer system.

22. (Original) A method for awarding credits redeemable for products, said method comprising:
enabling a user to electronically place a purchase order from a vender;
tracking a monetary value of said purchase order and converting said monetary value into earned credits which a user can redeem for products from the vender during one or more subsequent ordering sessions;
maintaining a list of products which can be acquired with said earned credits, said list having at least a product name and a product value expressed in credits;
making said list available for searching during the subsequent ordering session; and
enabling said user to search for and select said products in exchange for said earned credits.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 22, wherein said earned credits are displayed as a dollar value.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 22, further comprising enabling said user to redeem said earned credits during one or more ordering sessions, tracking credits earned and credits redeemed throughout multiple ordering sessions and adjusting remaining earned credit balance.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 22, further comprising setting a predetermined maximum amount of said earned credits which said user can accumulate.

26. (Original) The method of Claim 22, further comprising setting a predetermined maximum amount of time after which unredeemed earned credits expire.

27. (Withdrawn) A method of ordering products from an electronic database using a computer system, said method comprising:

- categorizing the products represented in said electronic database into pre-defined categories that are customized for a specific user;

- maintaining a list of commonly purchased products in each said category, said list comprising at least a product name and a price, wherein said list is customized to display products most commonly ordered by said specific user and custom prices payable by said specific user;

- displaying at least a partial listing of said categories;

- enabling a user to select at least one displayed category;

- displaying an electronic order form comprising at least a portion of the commonly purchased products corresponding to said selected category;

- providing multiple of said lists of commonly purchased products, wherein each said product list further comprises an input field for enabling a user to indicate a desired quantity of said product to be purchased; and

- for each said product list, automatically capturing all products and quantities desired by the user to an aggregate product list prior to displaying another said product list;

- enabling a user to change to zero or to delete said quantity of said product to be purchased; and

- automatically capturing all changes to said quantity of said product to an aggregate product list and removing said product from said aggregate product list prior to displaying another said product list.

28. (New) The method of Claim 22, further comprising storing earned credits data in a database, the earned credits data is based on said earned credits.
29. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein said list is stored in a database.
30. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein said list is ordered based on increasing dollar value of the products.
31. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein said list includes product information, product number, and product unit of measure.
32. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein said list is searchable via at least one of a search engine and a browser.
33. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein the method is performed via a computer system.
34. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein said computer system is a client-server based system including a database and a server, and said list is displayable on said client.
35. (New) A system comprising:
- a processor;
 - at least one arrangement configured to communicate with the processor via a computer network;
 - a computer-readable storing medium storing a set of instructions, the set of instructions capable of being executed by the processor to implement a method for awarding credits redeemable for products, the set of instructions effective to perform the steps of:

enabling a user to electronically place a purchase order from a vender;
tracking a monetary value of said purchase order and converting said monetary value into earned credits which a user can redeem for products from the vender during one or more subsequent ordering sessions;
maintaining a list of products which can be acquired with said earned credits, said list having at least a product name and a product value expressed in credits;
making said list available for searching during the subsequent ordering session;
and
enabling said user to search for and select said products in exchange for said earned credits.

36. (New) A computer-readable storing medium, comprising:

a set of instructions, the set of instructions capable of being executed by a processing arrangement to implement a method for awarding credits redeemable for products, the set of instructions effective to perform the steps of:

enabling a user to electronically place a purchase order from a vender;
tracking a monetary value of said purchase order and converting said monetary value into earned credits which a user can redeem for products from the vender during one or more subsequent ordering sessions;
maintaining a list of products which can be acquired with said earned credits, said list having at least a product name and a product value expressed in credits;
making said list available for searching during the subsequent ordering session;
and
enabling said user to search for and select said products in exchange for said earned credits.

37. (New) An apparatus for awarding credits redeemable for products, the apparatus comprising:

- a first arrangement effective to enable a user to electronically place a purchase order from a vender;

- a second arrangement effective to track a monetary value of said purchase order and converting said monetary value into earned credits which a user can redeem for products from the vender during one or more subsequent ordering sessions;

- a third arrangement effective to maintain a list of products which can be acquired with said earned credits, said list having at least a product name and a product value expressed in credits;

- a fourth arrangement effective to make said list available for searching during the subsequent ordering session; and

- a fifth arrangement effective to enable said user to search for and select said products in exchange for said earned credits.